



**Superior Court of California
COUNTY OF ALAMEDA**

Memorandum re Traffic Cases During the Covid-19 Court Closure

Date: Updated as of May 28, 2020

The following is designed to address incoming questions during the Court's COVID-19 closure period. It will be updated as needed, however, this is an ever-changing, fluid situation. We appreciate your patience.

FAQ

1. What if I have a Court date scheduled between June 1, 2020 and September 1, 2020?

The Court is giving litigants the option of appearing in court by video until Traffic Court reopens. Consent forms and instructions on how to connect to the Court by video conference will be sent to litigants. Those litigants who do not wish to appear by video conference or do not have the capability to appear by video conference will have the appearance dates on their cases extended 90 days. Unless you notified us of a change of address, your new court date will be sent to you at the address on the traffic citation or Notice to Appear given to you by a law enforcement officer.

2. What if I have a No Time Waiver (NTW) trial scheduled between June 1, 2020 and September 1, 2020 and want to appear in person or cannot appear by video conference?

The March 30, 2020, [Statewide Order](#) and the April 29, 2020 Statewide Order of the Chief Justice and the Court's April 2, 2020, [Implementation Order](#) authorize the extension of the usual 45 day time limit for NTW trials by an additional 90 days. All NTW trials in which the defendant does not consent to a video conference will be continued to a date within the new time limit. If the new trial date is inconvenient, litigants may waive time and their trials will be rescheduled to another date.

3. Will there be any extension for fines and Traffic School due dates?

If you had a deadline to pay or complete an activity, and that deadline is between March 16 and June 1, those deadlines have been automatically continued for 120 days. These extensions apply to:

- Traffic School Completion Due Dates
- Traffic School Fee Due Dates
- Bail Forfeiture Due Dates
- Installment Payment Due Dates
- Fine Due Dates
- Citation Due Dates
- Volunteer Work and Community Service Due Dates, and
- Trial by Declaration Due Dates

4. How Can I Get My Driver's License Hold Lifted?

If your driving privilege was suspended due to the failure to appear at a court hearing or because of a failure to pay a fine, you may email asktraffic@alameda.courts.ca.gov or contact the Court to have the hold on your driver's license lifted.

- Wiley W. Manuel Courthouse – 661 Washington Street, Oakland, CA 94607 (510) 627-4700
- Fremont Hall of Justice – 39439 Paseo Padre Parkway, Fremont, CA 94538 (510) 818-7500
- East County Hall of Justice – 5151 Gleason Drive, Dublin, CA 94568 (925) 227-6700

The Court has suspended reporting Failures to Appear to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

5. What if I get a new citation instructing me to appear in court during the Court's closure?

You may contact the Court to request a court date. You will have the option of appearing by video for your arraignment on the citation. If you wish to appear in person, your court date will be scheduled 90-120 days from now.

6. How can I waive time so that I can reschedule my trial date to another day?

Forms to request to waive time can be obtained at [Waiver of Rights - Speedy Trial](#), and can be submitted to asktraffic@alameda.courts.ca.gov or returned to the Court's drop box at any of the following courthouses:

- Wiley W. Manuel Courthouse – 661 Washington Street, Oakland, CA 94607
- Fremont Hall of Justice – 39439 Paseo Padre Parkway, Fremont, CA 94538
- East County Hall of Justice – 5151 Gleason Drive, Dublin, CA 94568

7. Are there any alternatives available for my trial?

Yes. Alameda County Superior Court Emergency Local Rule 4.115, has temporarily reduced bail in infraction matters to \$0. Therefore, anyone with a pending no time waiver trial may elect to proceed with the trial by way of a Trial by Written Declaration, without being required to post any monetary amount of bail. Any litigant with a pending no time waiver trial will be sent notices advising them of this right and with instructions on how to make this request.

Litigants who do not wish to have a Trial by Written Declaration and do not wish to waive time are encouraged to consent to having their trials conducted by way of video conference. This will allow litigants to appear at trial from the comfort of their own homes without the need to be present in the courtroom.

8. How do I request a Trial by Written Declaration?

Instructions and request forms can be obtained on-line at [TBD Instructions](#), [TBD Request](#) and submitted to asktraffic@alameda.courts.ca.gov or returned to the Court's drop box.

9. How can I request a trial by Video Conference?

Consent forms and instructions will be sent to litigants. These forms can also be obtained on-line at [Consent](#) and submitted to asktraffic@alameda.courts.ca.gov or returned to the Court's drop box.